

CHAPTER NO. 779

HOUSE BILL NO. 3138

By Representatives Sands, Scroggs

Substituted for: Senate Bill No. 3074

By Senators Burks, Norris

AN ACT relative to state natural areas and scenic rivers and to amend 13 and 14 of Title 11.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 11, Chapter 13 is amended by adding the following new, appropriately designated section:

The department shall maintain a registry of riparian lands along those segments of designated scenic rivers specified in Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 11-13-104, that are not in state ownership and whose owners have voluntarily agreed to maintain them in a natural state. Such registration shall not be binding nor shall it involve any transfer of property rights. However, owners of riparian lands so registered may at any time voluntarily consent to have such areas included within Scenic River boundaries as provided in section 11-13-108. The Commissioner may adopt guidelines or regulations for the administration of this voluntary registration program including, but not limited to, the uses that may be made of lands in the registry. Owners of lands in the registry shall be permitted to make public the fact that the area is so listed. If the commissioner finds at any time that the owner has failed to maintain any such lands in a natural state, they shall be removed from the registry.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 11-14-108(b)(2) is amended by adding the following as appropriately designated subsections:

() Meeman-Shelby Forest. An area of approximately eleven thousand (11,000) acres located within Meeman-Shelby State Park in Shelby County. This area supports large unfragmented cypress dominated sloughs and bottomland hardwood forests that represent exemplary forest communities of the Mississippi Alluvial Plain in west Tennessee. It also supports significant unfragmented upland hardwood forests occurring along the Chickasaw Bluff.

() Auntney Hollow. An area of approximately twenty-seven (27) acres located in Lewis County that supports the federally listed plant, Tennessee yellow-eyed grass (*Xyris tennesseensis*). This Western Highland Rim site protects a significant population of this rare plant, which occurs here in a globally rare *Xyris* seep community. The rare Grass-of-Parnassas (*Parnassia grandifolia*) is a codominant plant species of the *Xyris* seep community.

() Carroll Cabin Barrens. An area of approximately two hundred (200) acres located in Decatur County. This West Tennessee Uplands site supports a rare glade/barrens community that occurs in association with outcrops of Silurian limestone formations. The Limestone Hill Barrens Community grassland is dominated by little bluestem (*Schizachyrium scoparium*) with rare plant species that include barrens silky aster (*Aster pratensis*), hairy fimbristylis (*Fimbristylis puberula*), and slender blazing star (*Liatris cylindracea*).

() Duck River Complex. A complex of 6 separate subunit natural areas totaling approximately two thousand one hundred (2,100) acres within the 12,000 acre Duck River Wildlife Management Area in Maury County. Located in the Central Basin, these areas support rare species associated with globally rare cedar glades and barrens communities, including the federally listed leafy prairie-clover (*Dalea foliosa*). The areas support diverse forest community types, caves and other karst features, and scenic attributes associated with a segment of the Duck Scenic River that flows through this public land.

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Subsection 11-14-108(b)(1)(P) concerning Ghost River (Section of the Wolf River) is amended by deleting the language, "two thousand (2,000) acres" and substituting instead, "two thousand two hundred twenty (2,220) acres".

SECTION 4. Tennessee Code Annotated, Subsection 11-14-108(b)(2)(F) concerning Colditz Cove is amended by deleting the language, "seventy-two (72) acres" and substituting instead, "one hundred sixty-five (165) acres".

SECTION 5. Tennessee Code Annotated, Subsection 11-14-108(b)(2)(V) concerning Frozen Head State Park is amended by deleting the language, "two thousand seven hundred acres (2700)" and substituting instead, "three thousand nine hundred and fifty (3950) acres".

SECTION 6. Tennessee Code Annotated, Subsection 11-14-108(b)(2)(N) concerning Fall Creek Falls State Park is amended by deleting the language, "fourteen thousand two hundred seventy (14,270) acres" and substituting instead, "fifteen thousand five hundred seventy-nine (15,579) acres".

SECTION 7. Tennessee Code Annotated, Subsection 11-14-108(b)(2)(N) concerning Fall Creek Falls State Park is further amended by deleting the language, "twenty-one thousand twenty (21,020) acre" and substituting instead, "twenty-two thousand three hundred twenty-nine (22,329) acre".

SECTION 8. Tennessee Code Annotated, Subsection 11-14-108(b)(2)(GG) concerning Couchville Cedar Glade is amended by deleting the language, "A seventy-nine (79) acre" and substituting instead, "An eighty-four (84) acre".


SECTION 9. This Act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

PASSED: May 15, 2002


JIMMY RAIFEH, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES


JOHN S. WILDER
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

APPROVED this 22nd day of May 2002


DON CONQUIST, GOVERNOR